



## GOOD TO KNOW – OCTOBER 2021

**The second F.I.C.C. World Congress on Camping, Caravanning  
and Motorcaravanning**

**in VERRIERES-LE-BUISSON/Paris – France  
will now take place from 26 to 28 October 2022**



**91st INTERNATIONAL F.I.C.C. RALLY in MOSCOW/RUSSIA will be held  
from 29 July to 07 August 2022**



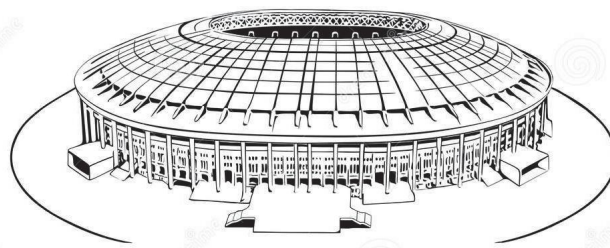


in the Luzhniki sports centre which is the biggest sports complex in Europe with playing fields and recreation areas in a green setting. The stadium is not only a sports arena but serves as the largest concert venue in Russia where internationally renowned groups and bands perform.

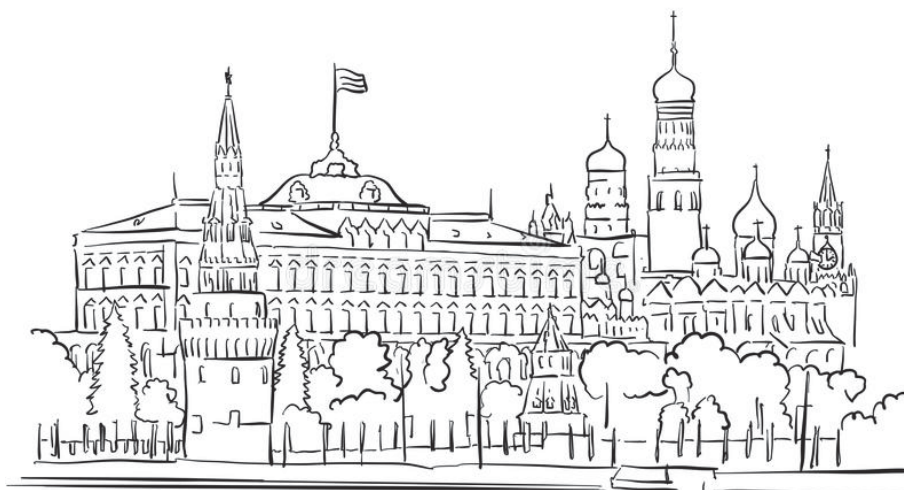
There are hotels in the vicinity (Apelsin, Spectroom, Blues) for participants who are unable to come with their own caravan, motorcaravan or tent.

Preparations are in hand to provide a very rich and varied programme of excursions including trips around Moscow and the city's environs. After the rally, there will also be an opportunity to tour around Russia stopping overnight at modern well-appointed campsites.

In addition to attending the "Let's Travel Russian Tourism Forum", there will be presentations of campsites, new routes across Russia, workshops, tastings, interactive programmes and entertainment, museum visits and guided architectural tours.



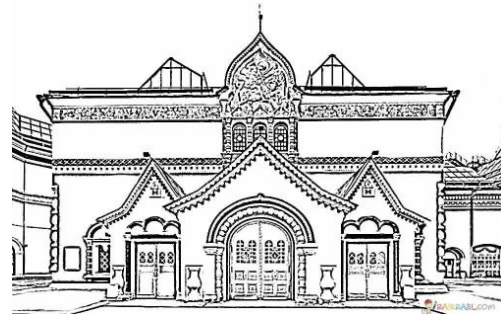
Luzhniki



Kremlin



The Cathedral of Christ the Savior



The national Tretyakov Gallery

The cost of registration is 140€ (per adult), young people between 12 and 17 years old in a motorcaravan or caravan 85€.

Children up to and including 11 years of age: no charge.

Participants in a motorcaravan or caravan: 180€

Participants (1 person) not staying on the rally site: 50€

Electricity: 30€

## 92nd INTERNATIONAL F.I.C.C. RALLY 2022 from 28 September to 7 October IN CHINA



During the 2021 General Assembly in A Guarda in Spain, the organiser RV21 presented a very interesting programme for the participants, including Kung Fu and Thai Chi classes, Chinese



calligraphy, paper folding, tea ceremony, sports competitions, evening shows (dance, music, opera etc.) as well as excursions to Shidu, Shanhaiguan, Tanjin, Beijing etc.  
Participation fees are US\$ 120 per adult, US\$ 60 for youth (12-17 years old) and for children up to 12 years old: free of charge.

## 93rd INTERNATIONAL F.I.C.C. RALLY 2023 from 24 JUNE to 3 JULY in KOZIENICE/POLAND



Official website: [www.pfcc.eu](http://www.pfcc.eu)

English: <http://www.pfcc.eu/ang/files/gbfic23.pdf>

German: <http://www.pfcc.eu/niem/files/gbfic23.pdf>

Français <http://www.pfcc.eu/franc/files/gbfic23.pdf>

Polish: <http://www.pfcc.eu/pol/files/rally93.pdf>

The official rally website will be launched at the end of the year.





## Camping/Caravanning/Motorcaravanning

### Innovation in caravanning: anti-skid/snaking system

Caravans are not very innovative in terms of technology. However, there is one accessory that is given far too little attention these days that can make a real difference: the electronic anti-snaking system.

The stabilising coupling is standard now, but so far there is no integrated electronic system that switches on when the caravan starts to snake/swing. But such a system can be retrofitted on a car and/or caravan.

#### On a car

New cars are fitted with an electronic stability programme (ESP). Sensors in the car detect that the car is about to skid and the electronics react quickly by braking one or more wheels so that the car becomes stable once more. The Trailer Stability Programme (TSP or sometimes known by another term) complements this system. When the Programme detects that the towed caravan is snaking or swaying, each wheel will be braked in turn and this action will stabilise the caravan. If this is not enough, the entire outfit will automatically brake and the snaking/swaying will stop.

#### On a caravan

About 30 years ago, Wolfgang Lubs invented LEAS (Lubs Elektronische Anhänger Stabilisierung – Lubs Electronic Trailer Stabiliser) that applies the trailer brake if the caravan starts to snake or swing. The universal LEAS system, that is still on the market and works well, has been copied by other manufacturers.

The LEAS system has been copied by big manufacturers such as ALKO (with ATC), BPW (with iDC) and Knott (ETS plus). Triorep's "Mountain Brake System" (ITBS) also has an anti-hopping function whereby a sensor in the caravan detects if a caravan is snaking or swinging and activates the trailer brake. The outfit's speed is reduced and the snaking stops.

#### In practice

The heavier the caravan, the more likely it is to snake. A stabilising coupling ensures that the caravan does not snake so quickly but when it does it will do so rather more violently. Obviously the driver can engage the brake personally, but all electrical systems react far more quickly and more effectively than the best caravan driver in the world possibly can.

Caravan systems react more quickly than the TSP in a car, too quickly sometimes if, for example a caravan bounces about when it is being driven at reduced speed on a bumpy road. It takes just a few seconds to detect how a caravan-car combination is behaving. The same happens when one drives (too?) fast to overtake a truck and the caravan begins to sway in the side wind. The caravan responds quickly and stabilises once the speed drops a little.

If you are driving a heavy towing vehicle using cruise control, you should be especially vigilant. You should have an indicator or display in the car that shows when the system is operating. When the vehicle's TSP kicks in, the caravan really starts to swing. You can feel and hear the vehicle's ABS system vibrating. The lights on the dashboard start flashing and well before you yourself would have braked, the vehicle has already reacted and a potentially dangerous situation is thus avoided. Both systems can work perfectly in tandem which makes for greater safety when towing a caravan.



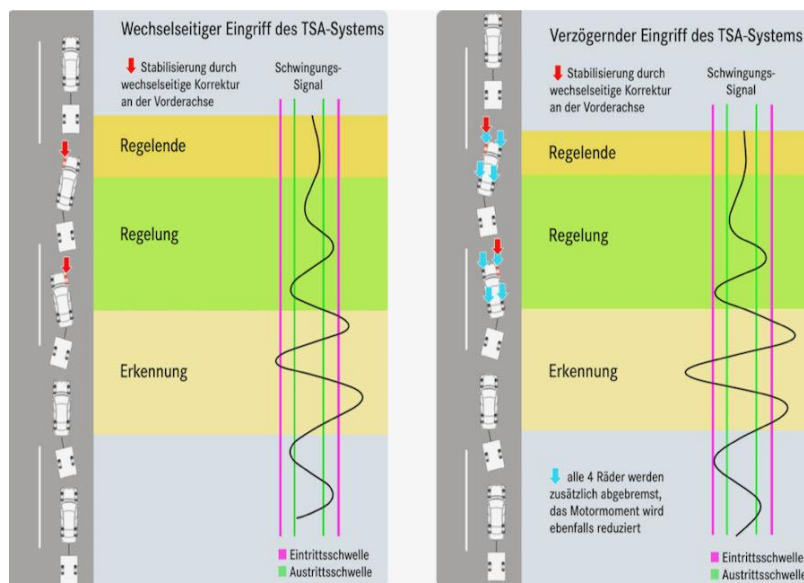
Remember: electronic systems brake far more quickly than the best driver can!

For a system to be reliable, it is however important that it is properly installed. The TSP function needs to be activated frequently if the trailer coupling/tow hitch is retrofitted.

Unfortunately it often happens that the vehicle's on-board computer is not suitable if a (cheaper) trailer coupling/tow hitch is fitted. So be aware of this when you mount a trailer coupling/tow hitch. And it is vital to have a good and reliable power supply for these systems to operate in caravans. Above all, use your common sense!

When an anti-snaking system is in operation, the cause of any snaking must be identified and addressed. Remember to load the caravan properly and drive more slowly. Finally the anti-snaking system is only a safety net for use in emergencies and should not be switched on under normal conditions.

However installing an ATC, ITBS, TSP or one of the other electrical stabilising systems in your caravan is a wiser investment than the majority of other visible systems and should be mandatory for all caravans that take to the road. Driving safety is definitely improved.



Graphics: Mercedes-Benz

Source: "De Caravan" Clubzeitschrift des Nederlandse Caravan Club (NL) August 2021

**Netherlands:** Of campers who rent a motorhome, 53% buy one afterwards. 9% of them within the year.

Source: NKC (NL)

### Practical tips – for campers too

The cold spray we use for sports injuries can be used to loosen **rusty screws**. Simply spray stubborn screws, let it sink in and you will find you can easily remove the screw in the usual way.



Removing eggshells can often be tricky. A simple solution: add a little vinegar to the boiling water. As an eggshell is 90% lime, it will be dissolved by the vinegar and make it easier to peel the egg. (Read somewhere)

## MISCELLANEOUS

### Traffic

**Does the colour of a vehicle help prevent accidents?** Apparently it does – because light-coloured vehicles, especially white ones, reflect the light better and are therefore more visible sooner. According to statistics, black cars are the most accident prone.

In hot countries white vehicles absorb up to 8% less heat than darker ones.

**Switzerland:** In Switzerland all children up to the age of 12 must sit on a child's seat when travelling in a car. If they are taller than 150 cm or older than 12, they must use a seatbelt.

Any child's seat is permitted provided that it is appropriate for the child's weight and height and carries one of the two ECE regulatory signs.

The fine for transporting a child who is not properly secured is 60 CHF.

Source: Auto – ACS (CH)

The Spanish AP-7 (Tarragona-La Jonquera and Montmelo- El Papiol) and AP-2 (Zaragoza-El Vendrell) motorways will become free from 1 September 2021. The sections of the C-32 (Barcelona-Lloret de Mar) and the C-33 (Barcelona-Montmelo) are also free for the time being, as the concessions have ended. However, it can be assumed that a vignette will be introduced at some point.

Source: Servitur-DCC (D)

### Health

**Good health with tai-chi:** The gentle, flowing movements and deep breathing associated with tai chi are excellent for one's muscles, balance and relaxation. It also helps prevent diabetes and, according to one study, is just as effective as rapid walking combined with muscle training.

Source: Seen in Freizeit-Revue (D)

**Night sweats** and perspiration are unpleasant but sage can help. Pour 150 grs boiling water over 3 grams of sage leaves and leave to stand uncovered for 10 minutes. Strain and drink hot or cold.

### Curious facts/Environment/Culture

According to the phenological calendar (based on exact long-term observations of natural processes), plant growth determines the season and distinguishes between **ten distinct seasons**: winter, foretaste of spring, early spring, height of spring, early summer, high summer, late summer, early autumn, height of autumn and late autumn.

Montpellier is the **new "Design Art City"**

The city of Montpellier is famous for its modern architecture, and new buildings are shooting up all the time. Two that stand out clearly from the rest are "Le Nuage" (cloud) Wellness Centre and



“L’Arbre Blanc” (white tree) where the balconies project randomly outwards like branches from the trunk of a tree.

Montpellier is about to be designated “Design Art City”, a label launched by the street artist Kamel Secraoui to highlight the commitment of towns and cities to architectural and artistic innovation.

Source: DCC (D) - Extract

**France:** The French government is considering whether cigarette manufacturers should share in the cost of clearing up cigarette ends. 2.4 thousands of millions of cigarette butts end up on the street every year. Cigarette manufacturers should be required to contribute an annual amount of 80 million euros towards removing this garbage and invest in pocket ashtrays, cigarette trash cans and a new recycling system.

Every year **smokers around the world** drop 4.5 billion cigarette ends on the street or in nature and these take 15 to 100 years to decompose (up to 400 years in the sea).

## INTERESTING NEWS FROM F.I.C.C. AND ITS MEMBERS

**UNIONE CLUB AMICI (Italy)** is celebrating its **25th Anniversary** this year.







The Presidents of the Italian F.I.C.C. members clubs Confederazione Italiana del Campeggiatori – A.C.T.ITALIA Federazione – Unione Club Amici during the Parma Fair

**The DCC Europe Award** for campsites went to campsites in Germany, Italy, France, Croatia and Austria.

**The DCC Europe Platinum Award** went to Germany and Spain.

## **F.I.C.C. e-Book**

The **Camping Card International website** was totally updated in October last year with new functions and user-friendly instructions and descriptions of the advantages available to CCI users.

In order to gain access to the detailed information, the user/camper must register on the website [www.campingcardinternational.com](http://www.campingcardinternational.com) although all of the benefits associated with the CCI are apparent without registration.

Once users/campers have registered and shown that they have a valid CCI, they have access to the CCI e-book listing all of the discounts by country plus specific tourist information that will ensure that they enjoy their camping holiday to the full.

As a registered user, give your email/password and select the country of your choice in order to download the e-book as a pdf file (available in English only for the moment). You will also find the CCI app in Apple Store and Google Play that is simpler to use on your mobile device.

F.I.C.C. and your CCI team wish you a wonderful, relaxing camping holiday!



## “CAMPING WITH FICC“

is a YouTube channel, where you can communicate not only with F.I.C.C. members but with all campers across the world and share their camping tips, experiences and memories before setting off on a camping trip, and even while you are away. This enables everyone to get maximum pleasure from this type of outdoor tourism.

Travelling, discovering the wider world, waking up in a different place every morning... Whether you travel alone or in a group, a trip in your caravan is always an adventure. But so that this adventure does not end in disaster, F.I.C.C. recommends checking out the video “Ten best practices before departure“ that was made by the F.I.C.C. Motorcaravanning Commission.

**"Camping with FICC" is accessible via the following link:**

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCIDBeAqa72QIJ96q-CPrp-Q>

## EXHIBITIONS

**Austria:** Caravan Salon Austria from 20 to 24 October 2021, in Wels

Ferienmesse Wien from 7 to 9 May 2022, in Vienna

**Belgium:** Salon des vacances from 2 to 6 February 2022, in Brussels

**Finland:** “Caravan“ Fair from 21 to 23 January 2022, in Helsinki

**France:** SETT from 2 to 4 November 2021, in Montpellier

**Germany:** Caravan Bremen from 6 to 8 November 2021, in Bremen

Touristik & Caravanning from 18 to 22 November 2021, in Leipzig

CMT from 15 to 30 January 2022, in Stuttgart

Reise + Camping from 16 to 20 February 2022, in Essen

Reisen & Camping from 7 to 9 January 2022, in Leipzig

Messe Erfurt from 28 to 31 October 2021, in Erfurt

Freizeit, Touristik & Garten from 28 April to 2 May 2022, in Nürnberg

**Great Britain:** Caravan & Motorhome Show in January 2022, in Manchester

NEC Motorhome & Caravan Show from 22 to 27 February 2022, in Birmingham

**Northern Ireland:** Caravan & Motorhome Show from 14 to 16 January 2022, in Belfast

**Italy:** Turismo & Outdoor from 3 to 6 February 2022, in Parma

**Netherlands:** Caravana from 26 to 30 January 2022, in Leeuwarden

**Portugal:** Nauticampo from 3 to 6 February 2022, in Lisbon

**Spain:** Caravanning y Camper del Levante from 6 to 9 May 2022, in Torre Pacheco, Murcia

Madrid Caravanning from 3 to 6 February 2022, in Madrid

FITUR from 19 to 23 May 2022, in Madrid

**Sweden:** Scandinavian Caravan Show (Elmia) from 7 to 11 September 2022, in Jönköping

**Switzerland:** Suisse Caravan Salon from 28 October to 1 November 2021, in Bern

Geneva Motor Show from 19 to 27 February 2022, in Geneva



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